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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

IN RE APPLICATION OF:
Pascal JOGUET, et al.

SERIAL NO: 10/590,306   GROUP: 2629

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FOR: DEVICES AND METHODS OF CONTROLLING MANIPULATION OF
              VIRTUAL OBJECTS ON A MULTI-CONTACT TACTILE SCREEN

STATEMENT OF RELEVANCY

The reference Hashimoto et al. (Japanese Patent Application No. 2000-222130) is directed to a touch-panel screen that can be contacted with two or more fingers simultaneously to detect two or more points of contact. (Hashimoto et al., Abstract, Figure 7, paragraph [0033].) A locus storage 77 is used together with conversion table 74 to store a timely order of contact of the two or more fingers. (Hashimoto et al., Figure 8a, paragraphs [0042]-[0044]). Hashimoto et al. calculates coordinates in the representation coordinate storage 14. (Hashimoto et al., paragraphs [0022]-[0024], and [0031].) Based on which finger is released or maintained on the screen and a timely order thereof, Hashimoto et al. explains that it is possible to provide different commands/inputs for example to show a parameter identifier, an argument value, a program name, etc. (Hashimoto et al., paragraphs [0057]-[0059]). However, Hashimoto et al. fails at least to teach "applying the first specific processing rule of the first graphical object as a function of a relative position between the first touch position and the first object position; applying the second specific processing rule of the second graphical object as a function of a relative position between the second touch position and the second object position," as required by Applicants' Claim 13.